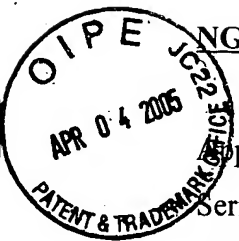


IFW



NGB-118-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Matsumoto et al. Group Art Unit: 3618
Serial Number: 10/716,340 Examiner: Vanaman, Frank Bennett
Filed: 18 Nov. 2003 Confirmation No.: 7601
Title: VEHICLE CANISTER ARRANGING STRUCTURE

STATUS INQUIRY

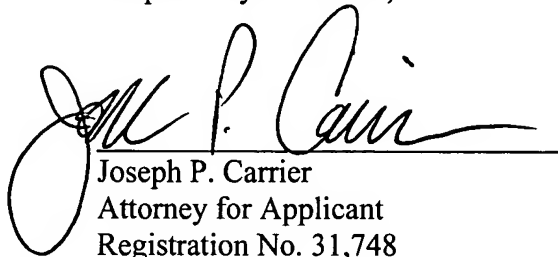
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, the last communication received from the Patent And Trademark Office was a Filing Receipt dated 18 February 2004. Accordingly, because this application was filed 18 November 2003, over sixteen months ago, applicant hereby urgently requests that the Patent And Trademark Office advise applicant's undersigned attorney as to the status of the first office action.

Favorable and prompt consideration is respectfully requested. ~~An extra copy of this Status Inquiry is attached hereto.~~

Respectfully submitted,

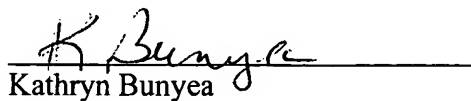


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31 March 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 31 March 2005.

Dated: 31 March 2005
JPC/kb
copy attached



Kathryn Bunyea